

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
June 10, 2004

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: NEW NPDES PERMIT: WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
FOR VAN OMMERING DAIRY, SAN DIEGO COUNTY
(TENTATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2004-0065, NPDES PERMIT NO.
CA0109207) (*Sabine Knedlik*)

PURPOSE: To obtain information from interested parties regarding the proposed tentative Order and to consider the adoption of the tentative Order. If adopted, the tentative Order will establish discharge and monitoring and reporting requirements for the Van Ommering Dairy for the discharge associated with a maximum of 485 mature dairy cows. The tentative Order also includes requirements that allow for an increase in herd size up to 700 mature dairy cows.

PUBLIC NOTICE: A notice of public hearing for the June 9, 2004 Regional Board meeting on this matter was issued on May 7, 2004 through the San Diego Union Tribune. Since the June 9, 2004 meeting was moved to June 10, 2004 after the publication date, a notice of the change was send to the discharger and all known interested parties and agencies on May 18, 2004.

Drafts of the tentative Order were mailed on May 7, 2004 to the discharger and all known interested parties and agencies for review and comment. Copies of the tentative Order have been made available for public review at the San Diego Regional Board office and web site.

These actions served as the 30-day official public notification, as required by Title 40, Section 124.10 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

DISCUSSION: On November 12, 2002, Mr. Van Ommering submitted a Report of Waste Discharge (RWD) for an NPDES permit for the Van Ommering Dairy, located at 14950 El Monte Road, Lakeside, California. The facility is regulated under Waste Discharge Requirements, Order No. 94-134, for the disposal of dairy waste from a mature milking cow herd size of 480. In the RWD, Mr. Van

Ommering indicated that the Van Ommering Dairy will be modifying its operations to include an anaerobic digester, freestall barns for the milking cows, and a composting operation. The proposed new animal facilities and waste treatment systems would reduce the overall volume of dairy waste and reduce pathogens and odors in liquid waste. Mr. Van Ommering also requested an increase in herd size to 700 milking cows. The proposed number of animals will classify Van Ommering Dairy as a Concentrated Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) that requires an NPDES permit.

The two major sources of wastewater generated at the Van Ommering Dairy are milk barn wash water and corral runoff. Additional liquid wastes generated at the Van Ommering dairy include runoff from irrigation pasture and composting areas. Wastewater is diverted to a settling basin where a significant portion of the solids is removed. The liquid waste is diverted to a storage pond where the water is used for irrigation. Solid waste at the dairy consists of manure that is collected, composted, and dried. The majority of the solid manure is sold to offsite farms for appropriate application to cultivated croplands or pasture lands. The amount of manure hauled offsite is recorded on manure manifest forms.

The existing storage pond is adequately sized for the current milking cow herd size of 485. The storage pond capacity cannot support an increase in herd size unless the proposed new animal facilities and waste treatment systems are built and operated.

The tentative Order requires that the storage pond and all other waste treatment, containment and disposal facilities at Van Ommering Dairy be protected from inundation or washout by overflow from any stream channel during 100-year peak stream flows. The storage pond shall also be designed to contain the runoff from corrals and other manured areas due to a 25-year, 24-hour storm (approximately 1.8 million gallons). Furthermore, all precipitation and surface drainage outside of manured areas, including that collected from roofed areas, and runoff from tributary areas resulting from a storm of intensity equal to or less than a 25-year, 24-hour storm event is required to be diverted away from manured areas unless such drainage is fully retained.

The tentative Order includes requirements that must be met prior to increasing the milking cow herd size to a maximum of 700 milking cows.

Order No. R9-2004-0065 does not contain numeric effluent limitations since the Order prohibits discharges of waste to any

surface water bodies, or tributary thereof. The Order establishes requirements for design and maintenance of retention ponds that includes requirements on the pond lining to prevent seepage of wastewater into the groundwater.

To provide a better overview of the overall groundwater quality in the area and to monitor possible impacts on the groundwater from the dairy discharges, tentative Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2004-0065 requires annual monitoring of the groundwater at the dairy for ground water elevation, pH, phosphorus, sodium, total dissolved solids, and nitrate.

No comments concerning this item have been received during the 30-day comment period.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SUPPORTING
DOCUMENTS:

1. Site map
2. Tentative Order No. R9-2004-0065 with Monitoring and Reporting Program No. R9-2004-0065
3. Fact Sheet to tentative Order No. R9-2004-0065
4. San Diego Union Tribune Public Notice
5. Transmittal letter, dated May 7, 2004

COMPLIANCE
RECORD:

The Van Ommering Dairy has been in compliance with Order No. 94-134 for the past five years. The last violation of the waste discharge requirements was recorded in September 1999 for not having adequate protection from runoff reaching manure piles.

RECOMMENDATION:

The adoption of tentative Order No. R9-2004-0065 is recommended.